



Aquidneck Island Re-Use Implementing Authority

Representing the municipalities of Newport, Middletown and Portsmouth, Rhode Island

AIRIA MEETING

Wednesday, October 10, 2012

Middletown Police Department, Community Room

1 p.m.~ 3p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Shawn Brown, Middletown Town Administrator; Bill Corcoran, Newport; Peter Cosel, Esq. Portsmouth; Fred Faerber, Portsmouth; Bill Harvey, Middletown; Jane Howington, Newport City Manager; Keith Humphreys, Portsmouth; Naomi Neville, Newport; Ron Wolanski, Middletown; Tina Dolen, PRC; Jared Weaver, AIPC

The meeting was called to order 1:05 pm

Status Report

The AIRIA Interim Property Re-use Coordinator opened the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.

Tina explained the electronic newsletter she has forwarded to AIRIA from the Association of Defense Communities (ADC) is an excellent resource. Ron agreed the newsletter contains important information on BRAC related issues, sustainable regional planning and many other federal concerns such as sequestration.

Tina briefly described a visit from policy director Rele Abiade and Vivian Spencer from Senator Whitehouse's office, who sought an update on AIRIA and AIPC. The Senator is very interested in the redevelopment process and its economic impacts, and would like to stay abreast of news concerning AIRIA.

Tina suggested reinstating a revised form of the previous AIRPA electronic newsletter for AIRIA to provide suitable news for the delegation and others. She noted sensitive information is inappropriate for public dissemination and would always be omitted in any communication from AIRIA. A simple message containing general information might keep elected officials in the loop and better positioned to assist AIRIA when needed. No conclusion was reached on whether or not to pursue an electronic newsletter.

Tina provided progress notes on the 3rd quarter OEA report. She is working with Jim Nolan, City of Newport Senior Accountant, to jointly complete the submission due October 31st. Non-Federal Match hours are now needed from each municipality as part of the 10% match required under the terms of the grant.

A draft OEA recognition letter will be sent to AIRIA members.

Election of Officers

Officers of the AIRIA were unanimously elected as follows:

Chairperson: Shawn Brown, Middletown

Vice-Chairperson: Fred Faerber, Portsmouth

Treasurer Secretary: Jane Howington, Newport

As per the Interlocal Agreement, terms of office shall be for two (2) years. Election of officers by the Board of Directors shall be held bi-annually.

Property Reuse Coordinator (PRC)

Jane Howington reported an RFQ or PD for a Property Reuse Coordinator will be advertised by the City of Newport for a minimum of four (4) weeks to assure the broadest reach. Applications will be received by the City and the interview team will include one AIRIA member from each of the municipalities.

Consultants

A letter of engagement for legal services by David Knisely was unanimously voted as agreeable and will be sent to David for signature and return.

Copies of the contract for Matrix prepared by the City of Newport were distributed. A vote to approve the contract and have it sent to Matrix was unanimously approved.

Interlocal Agreement

The municipalities of Middletown and Newport have approved an amendment to the Interlocal Agreement stating *“Any Municipal Member may terminate its membership in the AIRIA by giving written notice of its intention to terminate to all other Municipal Members at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of termination. The effective date of termination shall be specified in the written notice.”*

The Portsmouth Town Council will soon meet to consider the new amendment.

The Navy’s Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) has begun:

The EIS will evaluate the potential human and natural environment consequences of the disposal and reuse of NAVSTA Newport surplus properties.

The EIS consultants, Ecology and Environment Inc., will hold two required public scoping meetings in November. AIRIA wishes to have its own meeting with the EIS team, which the PRC will schedule.

There was no other business

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm

Submitted by Jared Weaver, Planning Director for AIPC